

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the Application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Amended) A method of distributed collaborative computing comprising:

providing a collaboration function for supporting a conference wherein a plurality of participants collaborate with each other using respective computers connected over a global-area network;

partitioning a the collaboration function into sub-functions;

assigning at least one said sub-function to each of a plurality of logical processes;

associating a respective management process with each of said plurality of logical processes, said logical processes configured so that each said logical process is capable of communicating with every other said logical process through said respective management process;

communicating between said logical processes using said respective management processes; and

monitoring said respective management processes with a single supervisor process;

wherein said monitoring further comprises re-creating one or more said logical processes in response to detecting a failure of one or more said logical processes.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, said detecting further comprising:

monitoring a message stream to determine a responsiveness of said logical process;

and

if said responsiveness ceases, signaling said failure to said single supervisor process.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, said re-creating further comprising:
spawning a new logical process;
assigning to said new logical process said at least one sub-function corresponding to
said failed logical process;
recovering the state of said failed logical process into said new logical process; and
associating a new management process with said new logical process.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, said re-creating further comprising:
activating a stand-by logical process, said stand-by process having been instantiated
prior to said detecting;
assigning to said stand-by logical process said at least one sub-function
corresponding to said failed logical process;
recovering the state of said failed logical process into said new logical process;
associating a new management process with said stand-by logical process; and
spawning a new stand-by logical process.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Amended) A computer-readable medium storing a computer program executable by a plurality of server computers, the computer program comprising computer instructions for:

providing a collaboration function for supporting a conference wherein a plurality of participants collaborate with each other using respective computers connected over a global-area network;

partitioning a the collaboration function into sub-functions;

assigning at least one said sub-function to each of a plurality of logical processes;

associating a respective management process with each of said plurality of logical processes, said logical processes configured so that each said logical process is capable of communicating with every other said logical process through said respective management process;

communicating between said logical processes using said respective management processes; and

monitoring said respective management processes with a single supervisor process;

wherein said monitoring further comprises re-creating one or more said logical processes in response to detecting a failure of one or more said logical processes.

10. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, said detecting further comprising:

monitoring a message stream to determine a responsiveness of said logical process;

and

if said responsiveness ceases, signaling said failure to said single supervisor process.

11. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, said re-creating further comprising:

spawning a new logical process;

assigning to said new logical process said at least one sub-function corresponding to said failed logical process;

recovering the state of said failed logical process into said new logical process; and

associating a new management process with said new logical process.

12. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, said re-creating further comprising:

activating a stand-by logical process, said stand-by process having been instantiated prior to said detecting;

assigning to said stand-by logical process said at least one sub-function corresponding to said failed logical process;

recovering the state of said failed logical process into said new logical process;

associating a new management process with said stand-by logical process; and

spawning a new stand-by logical process.

13. (Previously Amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, comprising computer instructions for:

providing a collaboration function for supporting a conference wherein a plurality of participants collaborate with each other using respective computers connected over a global-area network;

partitioning the collaboration function into sub-functions;

assigning at least one said sub-function to each of a plurality of logical processes;
associating a respective management process with each of said plurality of logical processes, said logical processes configured so that each said logical process is capable of communicating with every other said logical process through said respective management process;
communicating between said logical processes using said respective management processes; and
monitoring said respective management processes with a single supervisor process;
wherein said monitoring further comprises re-creating one or more said logical processes in response to detecting a failure of one or more said logical processes.

14. (Original) The computer data signal of Claim 13, said detecting further comprising:

monitoring a message stream to determine a responsiveness of said logical process;
and
if said responsiveness ceases, signaling said failure to said single supervisor process.

15. (Original) The computer data signal of Claim 13, said re-creating further comprising:

spawning a new logical process;
assigning to said new logical process said at least one sub-function corresponding to said failed logical process;
recovering the state of said failed logical process into said new logical process; and
associating a new management process with said new logical process.

16. (Original) The computer data signal of Claim 13, said re-creating further comprising:

activating a stand-by logical process, said stand-by process having been instantiated prior to said detecting;

assigning to said stand-by logical process said at least one sub-function corresponding to said failed logical process;

recovering the state of said failed logical process into said new logical process;

associating a new management process with said stand-by logical process; and

spawning a new stand-by logical process.